

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION: GOP DENIES ALLEGED USG 'PRESSURE' ON
PORTUGAL

DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT DRAWS GOP RESPONSE: IN
BACK-PAGE REPORT PUBLISHED BY JAN 21 "A CAPITAL" NEWSPAPER,
FONOFF SECRETARY OF STATE (I.E. DEPUTY SECRETARY) MEDEIROS
FERREIRA COMMENTED ON REPORTS THAT U.S. HAD APPLIED
"ENERGETIC PRESSURES AGAINST THE LISBON GOVERNMENT FOR
CLARIFICATIONS ON STOPOVERS AND REFUELING BY CUBAN AIRPLANES IN
THE AZORES, ON THE WAY TO ANGOLA TO AID THE MPLA." MEDEIROS
FERREIRA, ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, SAID: "THE TREMENDOUS DIFFI-
CULTIES THE U.S. IS HAVING IN ITS INTERNATIONAL POLITICS MUST
HAVE LED THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TO MISREPRESENT THE NATURE
OF THE APPROACHES MADE BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO THE PORTUGUESE
GOVERNMENT." MEDEIROS FERREIRA ALSO IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT
"THE ATTITUDE OF OUR GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDS ONLY TO OUR OWN
JUDGMENT ON THE SUBJECT AND OUR FIRM INTENTION TO MAKE THE AZORES
A PEACEFUL AREA, IT THUS BEING RIDICULOUS FOR THE (U.S.)
SPOKESMAN TO ALLEGE THAT THE FIRM ATTITUDE OF THE PORTUGUESE
GOVERNMENT RESULTED FROM STATE DEPARTMENT PRESSURES."
HOWARD

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NNN

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